#### SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P. C.

#### ATTORNEYS AT LAW

TANI E. SAPIRSTEIN\* TANI@SANDSLAW.COM 1331 MAIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01103 TELEPHONE (413) 827-7500

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\*ALSO ADMITTED IN CONNECTICUT AND NEW YORK

March 7, 2019

First Student, Inc. 600 Vine Street, Suite 1400 Cincinnati, OH 45202

**CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED** 

Article No.: 7018 0680 0000 7648 8045 and

First Class Mail/Postage Prepaid

Re: Leah Keeley v. First Student, Inc.

Civil Action No.: 19-087

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to M.R. Civ. P. 4(b)(d)(3), enclosed herewith please find copies of the following documents being forwarded in connection with the above-referenced matter:

- Summons;
- 2. Civil Action Cover Sheet; and
- Complaint

Very truly yours,

Tani E. Sapirstein

TES:ps Enclosures

cc: Ms. Leah Keeley (w/encls.)

K:\CASEFILE\Keeley, Leah 2018 816\Outgoing Correspondence\3.7.19 First Student OH transmittal letter.doc

Case 3:19-cv-30044-MGM Document 1-1 Filed 04/05/19 Pa	9f 2 ft 12
Case 3:19-cv-30044-MGM. Document 1-1 Filed 04/05/19 Part of PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY: PLEASE CIRCLE TYPE OF ACTION IN TORT - MOTOR VEHICLE TORT - CONTRACT - EQUITABLE RELIEF	-OTHRECEIVEID

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MAR / 2019

HAMPDEN, ss

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 19. 087

- F	(9)	.51	*	
LEAH KEELEY	, PLAIN	TIFF(S)	is.	
. V.		, St	JMMONS	
FIRST STUDENT, INC.	, DEFE1	NDANT(S)	an B	
To the above named defendant:	First Student, In Corporation Serve 84 State St., Bos	ice Company	stered Agent	
You are hereby summoned a plaintiff's attorney, whose address an answer to the complaint which i	is 1331 Main St. S <sub>I</sub> s herewith served upon	you, within 20 days	03 after service of this st	ummon
upon you, exclusive of the day of s for the relief demanded in the com office of the Clerk of this court at reasonable time thereafter.	plaint. You are also re	equired to file your a	nswer to the complain	nt in the
	8		* *	
Unless otherwise provided be may have against the plaintiff which plaintiff's claim or you will thereaft	a arises out of the transa	ction or occurrence t	hat is the subject matt	nich you er of the
,				
Witness, Judith Fabricant, I		20th day of	February	
in the year of our Lord two thousan	d∵nineteen			

Laura S. Gentile, Esquire CLERK OF COURTS

#### NOTES

1. This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure

2. When more than one defendant is involved, the names of all such defendants should appear in the caption. If a separate summons is used for each defendant, each should be addressed to the particular defendant.



Suffolk County Sheriff's Department · 132 Portland Street, Boston, MA 02114 · (617) 704-6999 Suffolk, ss.

March 6, 2019
I hereby certify and return that on 2/27/2019 at 8:30 AM I served a true and attested copy of the Summons, Complaint and Cover Sheet in this action in the following manner: To wit, by delivering in hand to Zach Rokosz, Process Clerk, agent and person in charge at the time of service for First Student, Inc., at Corporation Service Company 84 State Street Boston, MA 02109. Attest/Copies (\$5.00) Basic Service Fee (IH) (\$30.00) Postage and Handling (\$1.00) Total: \$36.00

Deputy Sheriff Joseph Casey

The Casey

Deputy Sheriff

DEFENDANT(S) First Student, Inc.  ATTORNEY, FIRM NAME, ADDRESS AND THEPHONE Tami E. Sapiristein, Esq. Sapiristein & Sapiristein, P.C.  ATTORNEY, FIRM NAME, ADDRESS AND THEPHONE Tami E. Sapiristein, Esq. Sapiristein & Sapiristein & Sapiristein, P.C.  ATTORNEY BIT KNOWN)  (413) 827-7500  BBOY 236850  Place au x in one box outy:  [ x] I. F01 Original Complaint	CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET		RT OF MASSACHUSETTS COURT DEPARTMENT HAMPDEN	DOCKET NO.	
Tani E. Sapirstein, Esq. Sapirstein & Sapirstein, P.C.    Sapirstein, Esq. Sapirstein & Sapirstein, P.C.	PLAINTIFF(S) Leah Keeley		defendant(s) Firs	t Student, Inc.	
Place an x in one box only:  [ ] 1, F00 District Court Appeal c.231, s. 97 &104 (After trial) [ ] 2, F02 Removal to Sup.Ct. C.231, s. 104 [ ] 3. F03 Retransfer to Sup.Ct. C.231, s. 102 (X) [ ] 6. E10 Summary Process Appeal [ ] 7 Order (Mass.R.Ct.P. 60) [ ] 8. F03 Retransfer to Sup.Ct. C.231, s. 102 (X) [ ] 6. E10 Summary Process Appeal [ ] 7 Order (Mass.R.Ct.P. 60) [ ] 8. F03 Retransfer to Sup.Ct. C.231, s. 102 (X) [ ] 6. E10 Summary Process Appeal [ ] 7 Order (Mass.R.Ct.P. 60) [ ] 8. E10 Summary Process Appeal [ ] 9. E10 Summary Process Appeal	Tani E. Sapirstein, Esq. Sapi 1331 Main St. Springfield MA (413) 827-7500	rstein & Sapir	ATTORNEY(IF KNOWN) stein, P.C.		
Place an x in one box only:  [X] 1. F01 Original Complaint [X] Order (Mass.R.C.V.P. 60) [X] TYPE OF ACTION AND TRACK DESIGNATION (See reverse side) [X] TYPE OF ACTION (specify) TRACK [X] TARCK IS THIS A JURY CASE?  B22 Employment Discrimination [X] TRACK IS THIS A JURY CASE?  B22 Employment Discrimination [X] TORT CLAIMS [X] Total hospital expenses and detailed statement of the facts on which plaintiff relies to determine money damages. For this form, disregard double or treble damage claims; indicate single damages only.  [Attach additional sheets as necessary] [A. Documented medical expenses to date: [A. Total hospital expenses [A. Total Doctor expenses [A. Total Doctor expenses [A. Total Doctor expenses [A. Total Doctor expenses [A. Total Original Complaintiff (specify) and the page of the complex of the facts on which plaintiff relies to determine money damages only.  [Attach additional sheets as necessary]  [A. Documented medical expenses [A. Total Doctor expenses [A. T		Origin e	ade and track designation		
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The following is a full, itemized and detailed statement of the facts on which plaintiff relies to determine money damages. For this form, disregard double or treble damage claims; indicate single damages only.    TORT CLAIMS	TYPE OF	ACTION AND TR	ACK DESIGNATION (See r	everse side)	
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(Attach additional sheets as necessary)  A. Documented medical expenses to date:  1. Total hospital expenses 2. Total Doctor expenses 3. Total chiropractic expenses 4. Total physical therapy expenses 5. Total other expenses (describe)  3. Documented lost wages and compensation to date 6. Documented property damages to date 7. Documented property damages to date 8. Reasonably anticipated future medical and hospital expenses 8. Cother documented items of damages (describe) 8. Brief description of plaintiff's injury, including nature and extent of injury (describe) 8. Brief description of plaintiff's injury, including nature and extent of injury (describe) 8. Contract Claims 9. Contract Claims 1 in excess of \$25,000.00 plus legal feet 1 contract Claims 1 expenses 9. Total 1 in excess of \$25,000.00 plus legal feet 1 contract Claims 1 expenses	B22 Employment Discr	imination (I	F)	Yes/No	
CONTRACT CLAIMS (Attach additional sheets as necessary)  rovide a detailed description of claim(s):  TOTAL  TOTAL  LEASE IDENTIFY, BY CASE NUMBER, NAME AND COUNTY, ANY RELATED ACTION PENDING IN THE SUPERIOR DURT DEPARTMENT  hereby certify that I have complied with the requirements of Rule 5 of the Supreme Judicial Court Uniform Rules on Dispute Resolution (SJC de 1:18) requiring that I provide my clients with information about court-connected dispute resolution services and discuss with them the various methods."	A. Documented medical expenses 1. Total hospital expenses 2. Total Doctor expenses 3. Total chiropractic expenses 4. Total physical therapy expenses (descriptions) 5. Total other expenses (descriptions) 6. Documented lost wages and conducted properly damage. 7. Reasonably anticipated future of Reasonably anticipated lost water the commented items of data of the documented items of data. 8. Brief description of plaintiff's in the commented items of data.	(Attach addition to date:  spenses eribe)  mpensation to date medical and hos ges nages (describe)	TORT CLAIMS al sheefs as necessary)  ate pital expenses  nature and extent of inj	Subtotal \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	
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O.S.C. 3-2007 Tani E. Sapirstein	tle 1:18) requiring that I provide my clients with vantages and disadvantages of the various method attorney of Record	rinformation about co	ourt-connected dispute resolutio	u services and discuss with them the	

# CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET INSTRUCTIONS SELECT CATEGORY THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR CASE

#### \* CONTRACTS

#### \* REAL PROPERTY

#### MISCELLANEOUS

AO	1 Services, Labor and Materials	(F)	C01	Land Taking (eminent domain)	(F)	E02		
	2 Goods Sold and Delivered	(F)	COZ	Zoning Appeal, G.L. c.40A	(F)	E02	Appeal from Administrative	
AO.	3 Commercial Paper	(F)	Co3	Dispute concerning title	(F)	1	Agency G.L c. 30A	(X)
AO.	B Sale or Lease of Real Estate	(F)	C04	Foreclosure of mortgage	(X)	E03	Claims against Commonwealth	
A1	2 Construction Dispute	(A)	C05	Condominium Lien & Charges	50000000	lance and the same	or Municipality	(A)
A9	Other (Specify)	(F)	C99	Other (Specify)	(X) (F)	E05	Confirmation of Arbitration Awards	(X)
E0:	Claims against Commonwealth	(A)	E03	Claims against Commonwealth	(A)	E07	G.L c.112, s.12S (Mary Moe)	(X)
	or Municipality	(/		or Municipality	(14)	E08	Appointment of Receiver	(X)
				,,		E09	General Contractor bond,	
	*TORT			<b>EQUITABLE REMEDIES</b>			G.L. c. 149, ss. 29, 29a	(A)
B0:	Motor Vehicle Negligence-	(F)	D01	Specific Performance of Contract	(A)	E11	Worker's Compensation	(X)
	personal injury/property damage		D02	Reach and Apply	(A) (F)	E12	G.L.c.123A, s.12 (SDP Commitment)	
B0/	Other Negligence-	(F)	D02	Contribution or Indemnification	(F)	E14	G.L. c. 123A, s. 9 (SDP Petition)	(2)
	personal injury/property damage	3	D07	Imposition of a Trust		E15	Abuse Petition, G. L. c. 209A	()()
	Products Liability	(A)	D08	Minority Stockholder's Suit	(A)	E16		(X)
	Malpractice-MedicaL	(A)	D10	Accounting	(A)	E17	Auto Surcharge Appeal	(X
B07	Malpractice-Other (Specify)		D12	Dissolution of Partnership	(F)		Civil Rights Act, G.L. c.12, s. 11H	(A)
B08	Wrongful Death, G.L c.229, s.2/	(A)	D13	Declaratory Judgment G.L. c. 231A	(A)	E18	Foreign Discovery Proceeding	(X)
	Defamation (Libel-Slander)	{A}	D99	Other (Specify)	(F)	E19	Sex Offender Registry G.L. c. 6,	950
	Asbestos	(A)		102			s. 178M	(X)
B20	injury one can	(F)				E25	Plural Registry (Asbestos cases)	
	Environmental	(A)				E95	**Forfeiture G.L. c. 94C, s. 47	(F)
B22	Employment Discrimination	(F)				E96	Prisoner Cases	(F)
	Other (Specify)	(F)			1 4	E97	Prisoner Habeas Corpus	(X)
E03	Claims against Commonwealth	(A)		7. · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		E99	Other (Specify)	(X)
	or Municipality						*	

\*Claims against the Commonwealth or a municipality are type E03, Average Track, cases.

\*\*Claims filed by the Commonwealth pursuant to G L c 94C, s 47 Forfeiture cases are type E95, Fast track.

TRANSFER YOUR SELECTION TO THE FACE SHEET.

EXAMPLE:

CODE NO. B03 TYPE, OF ACTION (SPECIFY)

TRACK

IS THIS A JURY CASE?

Motor Vehicle Negligence-Personal Injury

(F)

[X]Yes []

#### SUPERIOR COURT RULE 29

DUTY OF THE PLAINTIFF. The plaintiff or his/her counsel shall set forth, on the face sheet (or attach additional sheets as necessary), a statement specifying in full and itemized detail the facts upon which the plaintiff then relies as constituting money damages. A copy of such civil action cover sheet, including the statement as to the damages, shall be served on the defendant together with the complaint. If a statement of money damages, where appropriate is not filed, the Clerk-Magistrate shall transfer the action as provided in Rule 29(5)(C).

DUTY OF THE DEFENDANT. Should the defendant believe the statement of damages filed by the plaintiff in any respect inadequate, he or his counsel may file with the answer a statement specifying in reasonable detail the potential damages which may result should the plaintiff prevail. Such statement, if any, shall be served with the answer.

A CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET MUST BE FILED WITH EACH COMPLAINT.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THIS COVER SHEET THOROUGHLY AND ACCURATELY

MAY RESULT IN DISMISSAL OF THIS ACTION.

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

HAMPDEN, ss.		Superior Court Civil Action No.:
LEAH KEELEY	j	
Plaintiff	)	
v.	)	
FIRST STUDENT, INC.	)	
Defendant	)	

# COMPLAINT

#### **Parties**

- 1. The Plaintiff, Leah Keeley ("Ms. Keeley"), is a natural person with a residence at 30 Wilber Street, Springfield, Massachusetts.
- 2. The Defendant, First Student, Inc. ("First Student"), is a foreign corporation with its principal place of business at 600 Vine Street, Suite 1400, Cincinnati, Ohio and its Massachusetts office located at 68 Industrial Blvd. Suite 6, Hanson, Massachusetts. First Student regularly conducts business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including but not limited to, Hampden County.

#### Jurisdiction and Venue

- 3. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to G. L. c. 151B.
- 4. Venue is proper in Hampden County pursuant to G. L. c. 223, § 1, as Ms. Keeley resides in Hampden County.

#### Statement of Facts

- 5. First Student provides school bus transportation services to school districts.
- 6. Ms. Keeley was employed as a dispatcher with First Student from December 1, 2014 through July 25, 2018.
- 7. Ms. Keeley is a woman.
- 8. Ms. Keeley is also the guardian and sole care provider for a young man with advanced muscular dystrophy. ("Steven").
- 9. Throughout Ms. Keeley's employment with First Student, Brian Shaw ("Mr. Shaw"), was Ms. Keeley's supervisor.
- 10. When she began her employment with First Student, Ms. Keeley was clear with Mr. Shaw that she was Steven's sole care provider and, as such, she would require time off to attend medical appointments and/or attend to Steven's unique needs.
- 11. Mr. Shaw assured Ms. Keeley that he would make it work and Ms. Keeley would be permitted to care for Steven.
- 12. At the time Ms. Keeley was hired, Steven's illness was not yet significantly advanced and she was able to leave him unattended for several hours at a time.
- 13. In 2016, Ms. Keeley was involved in a car accident and she suffered prolonged symptoms from a sustained concussion. She requested and received leave pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA Leave").

- 14. When she returned from her FMLA Leave in March 2017, Mr. Shaw called Ms. Keeley into his office and informed her that he had not been happy with her performance prior to her FLMA Leave and he warned her that he would be closely observing her performance.
- 15. Ms. Keeley was surprised by Mr. Shaw's statements because Mr. Shaw had never previously raised any performance concerns and had stated in an email that he felt that the company needed her.
- 16. Mr. Shaw's sudden concerns further surprised Ms. Keeley as she maintained an excellent working relationship with her co-workers.
- 17. Upon Ms. Keeley's return from FMLA Leave, however, Steven's illness had also progressed. Ms. Keeley was no longer able to leave Steven unattended and his medical needs increased.
- 18. Despite the increased demands of Steven's care, Ms. Keeley continued to work shifts that Mr. Shaw had difficulty staffing, including taking shifts on a moment's notice, taking additional on-call shifts, working on previously scheduled days off, and staying after her scheduled shift to complete work.
- 19. Shortly after Ms. Keeley returned from FMLA Leave, Mr. Shaw angrily informed her that he intended to terminate her if she was even a minute late.
- 20. A few days after Mr. Shaw's threat to terminate Ms. Keeley, Steven's in-home nurse was unable to work due to a personal emergency. As Steven required round the clock care, Ms. Keeley could not leave him alone and she called Mr. Shaw to inform him that she would report to work as soon as she could find care.
- 21. The following day when Ms. Keeley returned to work, Mr. Shaw terminated her employment and stated that she was unreliable.

- 22. Further, throughout the course of her employment, Ms. Keeley repeatedly heard Mr. Shaw make disparaging comments about female employees including stating that he believed men would do a better job and openly wishing he could hire all men.
- 23. Additionally, Mr. Shaw would become explosive and demeaning toward Ms. Keeley and other female employees although he maintained a professional demeanor with male employees.
- 24. Although male colleagues were tardy, or used sick and vacation time in substantially similar ways, they were not subjected to increased scrutiny or angry outbursts.
- 25. Ms. Keeley filed a Charge of Discrimination with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination ("MCAD") on October 10, 2018 and alleged discrimination on the basis of Gender, Disability, and Retaliation for opposing discriminatory practices.
- 26. Ms. Keeley requested to withdraw her Charge from MCAD to file a private right of action in civil court on December 20, 2018, and received the Withdrawal on January 30, 2019.

## Statement of Claims

# Discrimination Based on Handicap G. L. c. 151B, § 4

27. The allegations contained in Paragraphs 1-26 are hereby realleged, reasserted, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein.

- 28. Mr. Shaw, Ms. Keeley's supervisor, discriminated against her on the basis of her disability when he took adverse employment actions against Ms. Keeley including but not limited to terminating her employment because she required FMLA Leave for herself and to care for Steven.
- 29. As a result of Mr. Shaw's conduct, Ms. Keeley suffered damages including but not limited to lost wages and emotional distress.

# Discrimination Based on Gender G. L. c. 151B, § 4

- 30. The allegations contained in Paragraphs 1-29 are hereby realleged, reasserted, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein.
- 31. Mr. Shaw, Ms. Keeley's supervisor, discriminated against her on the basis of her gender when he repeatedly made disparaging comments about female employees, including but not limited, to stating that he wished he could hire all male employees, and routinely engaging in a pattern of explosive and demeaning interactions with female employees.
- 32. As a result of Mr. Shaw's conduct, Ms. Keeley suffered damages including but not limited to lost wages and emotional distress.

#### Retaliation

### G. L. c. 151B, § 4

33. The allegations contained in Paragraphs 1-32 are hereby realleged, reasserted, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein.

- 34. Mr. Shaw took several adverse employment actions against Ms. Keeley as a result of her engaging in protected activity, including but not limited to, negative performance reviews, additional scrutiny, and termination.
- 35. As a result of Mr. Shaw's unlawful retaliation, Ms. Keeley suffered damages including but not limited to, lost wages and emotional distress.

#### Retaliation

## 29 U. S. C. § 2615

- 36. The allegations contained in Paragraphs 1-35 are hereby realleged, reasserted and reiterated as of fully set forth herein.
- 37. Ms. Keeley requested and received FMLA leave.
- 38. Upon her return from FMLA Leave Mr. Shaw took a number of adverse employment actions against Ms. Keeley, including but not limited to negative performance reviews, additional scrutiny, and termination.
- 39. Ms. Keeley's FMLA Leave was a substantial factor in Mr. Shaw's decision to subject Ms. Keeley to a number of adverse employment actions leading up to and including her termination.

#### THE PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A TRIAL BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS SO TRIABLE.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Leah Keeley hereby requests this Court:

- 1. to enter judgment in her favor on each Count of the Complaint;
- to award compensatory damages, including, but not limited to, lost wages and emotional distress damages;

- 3. to award punitive damages;
- 4. to award costs and attorney's fees; and
- 5. for such other relief as this Court deems proper.

Respectfully submitted,

The Plaintiff, Leah Keeley, By her attorney,

Tani E. Sapirstein, Esq.
BBO No. 236850
SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.
1331 Main St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
Springfield, MA 01103
Tel. (413) 827-7500
Fax (413) 827-7797

Dated: February 5, 2019